



## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Geological Survey

[GX23.WB12.C25A1.00; OMB Control Number 1028-0116]

### Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and Approval; Alaska Beak Deformity Observations

**AGENCY:** Geological Survey, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of information collection; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA), the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) is proposing to renew an information collection with revisions.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before

**[INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*].**

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review - Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function. Written comments may also be submitted by mail to the U.S. Geological Survey, Information Collections Officer, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive MS 159, Reston, VA, 20192; or by email to [gs-info\\_collections@usgs.gov](mailto:gs-info_collections@usgs.gov). Please reference OMB Control Number 1028-0116 in the subject line of your comments.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request additional information about this Information Collection Request (ICR), contact Colleen Handel by email

at [cmhandel@usgs.gov](mailto:cmhandel@usgs.gov), or by telephone at 907-786-7181. Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States. You may also view the ICR at <http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In accordance with the PRA and 5 CFR 1320.8(d)(1), we provide the general public and other Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on new, proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand our information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format.

A *Federal Register* notice with a 60-day public comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on October 11, 2022 (87 FR 61355). One comment was received but it did not address the Information Collection. No action was taken.

As part of our continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burdens, we are again soliciting comments from the public and other Federal agencies on the proposed ICR that is described below. We are especially interested in public comment addressing the following:

(1) Whether or not the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether or not the information will have practical utility;

(2) The accuracy of our estimate of the burden for this collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) How the agency might minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of response.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personally identifiable information (PII) in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your PII—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your PII from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

**Abstract:** As part of the USGS Ecosystems Mission Area mission to assess the status and trends of the Nation's biological resources, the Alaska Science Center Landbird program conducts research on avian populations within Alaska.

Beginning in the late 1990s, an outbreak of beak deformities in Black-capped Chickadees emerged in southcentral Alaska. USGS scientists launched a study to understand the scope of this problem and its effect on wild birds. Since that time, researchers have gathered important information about the deformities, but their cause still remains unknown. Members of the public provide observation reports of birds with deformities from around Alaska and other regions of North America. These reports are very important in that they allow researchers to determine the geographical distribution and species affected. Data collection

over such a large and remote area would not be possible without the public's assistance.

***Title of Collection:*** Alaska Beak Deformity Observations.

***OMB Control Number:*** 1028-0116.

***Form Number:*** None.

***Type of Review:*** Revision of a currently approved collection.

***Respondents/Affected Public:*** individuals/households.

***Total Estimated Number of Annual Respondents:*** 250.

***Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:*** 250.

***Estimated Completion Time per Response:*** 5 minutes to read the instructions and 10 minutes to complete the response form.

***Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours:*** 63.

***Respondent's Obligation:*** Voluntary.

***Frequency of Collection:*** on occasion.

***Total Estimated Annual Nonhour Burden Cost:*** none.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, nor is a person required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

The authority for this action is the PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

**Christian Zimmerman,**  
*USGS Alaska Science Center Director.*